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August 27, 2004

Mr. George Dorn, Interim Executive Director
Public Service Commission of South Carolina
Synergy Business Park, Saluda Building
101 Executive Center Drive
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

Re: Certification of the Use of Universal Service Funds pursuant to 47
C.F.R § 54.314 and Telecommunications Act § 254(e)
CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Mr. Dorn:

United Telephone Company of the Carolinas hereby requests that the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") submit a letter to the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") and the Universal Service Administrative Company ("USAC") verifying that United is in compliance with section 254(e) of the Telecommunications Act. Attached for filing with the FCC and USAC is an affidavit attesting to the fact that Federal Universal Service Funds will be used as intended in compliance with Section 254(e) of the Telecommunications Act.

The FCC requires that state regulatory authorities file a letter with the FCC and USAC certifying that rural carriers are in compliance with section 254(e) of the Act by October 1 of each year. If certification is not accomplished by October 1, 2004, federal support for universal service in the areas served by United within South Carolina will not be provided for at least the first quarter of 2005. See 47 C.F.R. § 54.314(d). United respectfully requests that the Commission accept this letter and the attached affidavit as self-certification that United is in compliance with section 254(e), and that the Commission issue a letter to the FCC and USAC prior to October 1, 2004, notifying them that United is eligible to receive federal universal service support in accordance with Section 254(e) of the Telecommunications Act and 47 C.F.R § 54.314.

Thank you for your assistance with this matter. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,


Jack H. Derrick

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF FRANKLIN

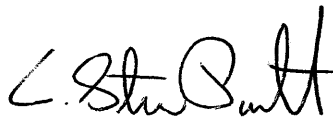
COMPANY: UNITED TELEPHONE COMPANY of the CAROLINAS
STUDY AREA NUMBER: 240506

PERSONALLY APPEARED BEFORE ME the undersigned WHO, BEING
DULY SWORN, deposed and said:

1. My name is C. Steve Parrott. I am employed by United Telephone Company of the Carolinas (the "Company") as its State Executive – NC/SC. As State Executive, I am authorized to give this affidavit on behalf of the Company. This affidavit is being given to support the Public Service Commission of South Carolina's certification as contemplated in 47 C.F.R. §54.314.

2. United Telephone Company of the Carolinas hereby certifies that it will use the federal high-cost support it receives during 2005 only for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and service for which such support is intended.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.



C. Steve Parrott
State Executive – NC/SC

Subscribed to and sworn before me this 24th day of August, 2004.


NOTARY PUBLIC FOR NORTH CAROLINA

Teresa W. Choplin
Printed Name of Notary

My Commission Expires: 12-28-04